

# The Sun

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manufacturing and non-manufacturing lines. Canada is an agricultural country and surely Canada is very much in the war. Brazil is an enormous agricultural country and Brazil is in the war. Australia and New Zealand may be counted in non-manufacturing Oceania, and neither New Zealand nor Australia would pass an examination for admission to the non-combatant class. So far as the rest of Oceania is concerned, about all of it, save the Dutch possessions, is under the war cloud.

As for non-manufacturing Africa, what continent has been holy in the war from the Cape to Cairo ever since it started. And nearly all of the wholly agricultural islands of the West Indies are combatants either under an independent flag, as in the case of Cuba, or under the flags of other belligerents. Agricultural Asia, including vast China itself, is either technically or actually in the great struggle from the polar sea to India's coral strand, unless you now count out Asiatic Russia, where things apparently have settled down to a chronic condition of organized or sporadic mob warfare.

All of this goes to show how difficult are broad generalizations concerning so hopelessly confused and tangled a thing as this unprecedented world chaos. What Mr. Austin had in mind, and set forth in his paper is that when the war is over commerce will flow back again into its normal channels of exchange between manufacturing and non-manufacturing countries; that eight of the eighty billions of dollars worth of manufactures annually produced in normal times will again go to agricultural countries in exchange for an equal value in material and foodstuffs as they did in the past. But to even this prediction Mr. Austin attaches a string. It depends, he says, on there being no radical trade agreement changes to "nullify" causes which have built up the trade current between these two great world sections.

**The British Fleet.**  
To what extent the attempt made by British naval forces supported by French destroyers to seal the submarine bases at Zebruge and Ostend succeeded is as yet unknown. The task set for the attackers was one of great difficulty; the attainment of its ends was dependent in a measure on circumstances beyond the control of its directors. This was disclosed in the failure of the smoke or fog screen to fulfill its whole purpose owing to a change of wind. But the assaults were planned with a thoroughness and delivered with a dash that sustains the best traditions of the British navy and demonstrates the fact that the long period of waiting undergone by the fleet has not impaired the skill, fortitude or valor of its men.

Because of conditions forced upon it by its essential duty, England's magnificent fleet has since the early period of the war been deprived of opportunities for engagements such as most landmen and some sailors regard as the primary object of its being. Its principal work has been to keep the German fleet bottled up, and this it has done for nearly four years in masterly fashion. When the Jutland battle was fought the Germans proclaimed it a victory, but the test of its outcome was the condition obtaining in the high seas after it was over, and as that condition was not altered in favor of the Germans, the German contentions are disproved, not by the assertions of the British Admiralty, but by the evidence afforded in the unchanged condition of ocean traffic navigation.

"The capital ships of the enemy having proved unequal to the British fleet, recourse was had to the submarine. The campaign against the undersea boat has been perilous, hard and filled with heroic incidents, besides calling into play technical skill of the highest order. Yet it has been of necessity conducted in such a manner that only an occasional glimpse of its processes could be given to the public. Meanwhile there have been demands in England that the fleet 'do something,' and sharp criticism has been uttered by persons who mistook its ceaseless vigilance and unrelaxed readiness for a species of censurable inactivity.

Particularly has there been insistence that the fleet attack the U-boats bases, and control the U-boats by making it impossible for them to use their home ports. A great deal of this has been founded on an utter misunderstanding of what is involved in such an attack and an equally complete failure to comprehend what the fleet was doing and why. The information already disclosed concerning the Zebruge and Ostend adventures should enlighten everybody on the hazardous nature of such exploits and the long period of preparation that must precede them.

Meanwhile the temper and skill of the personnel of the fleet has been abundantly proved once more by the manner in which the plans for the attacks were carried out. Waiting for the battleships of Germany has not sapped the enthusiasm of officers or men. The strict discipline of naval life has not caused the men to go stale. The finest exploits of the historic past are not beyond their ambition, and their capacity for gallantry is not less than was that of their predecessors.

The public forgets that actual combat is but a part, although it is the supreme test, of the navy's service. Battles on the seas, attacks on fortifications, are comparatively infrequent. The arduous and monotonous duties of patrol and blockade engross most of the energy of every naval establishment. And these duties must be performed with patience and pro-

ciency under the most exacting and discouraging circumstances. They require the highest professional attainments on the part of officers, and unquestioning obedience among men; and if they are neglected or executed in a slovenly or careless manner, the consequences cannot be atoned for by the most unflinching bravery in battle. It is in these duties that the British navy, through nearly four years of tolling warfare, has set a standard of excellence that has never been surpassed; the tremendous effect of its operations has been of a kind actually to obscure the magnitude of the part it has played and is playing in the war. Had it been less vigilant, had it been less prepared, the foe might have issued from his home harbors and offered battle. However splendid the victories that might have been won over him, they would not have testified as eloquently to Great Britain's sea power as does the isolation of the German war vessels behind his land fortifications, although they would unquestionably have called forth far livelier expressions of public approval.

**New Foes of the Bootleggers.**  
As long as a single developer or bootlegger defies the law and seeks to corrupt the men in the army and the navy there cannot be too many agents for the detection of the criminals and the suppression of their trade. The police have done and will continue to do what they can; wherever their efforts are not completely successful they deserve the assistance of other authorities. A squad of soldiers to collect evidence should prove a useful adjunct to the civil establishment, and so a welcome addition.

No policeman can be as familiar with the methods adopted to evade the law prohibiting the sale of intoxicants to soldiers and sailors as are the men in uniform. No detective can obtain direct evidence of its violation as quickly as a sailor or a soldier can. Consequently the men who will assist the police should be able to do more quickly and more thoroughly than the municipal police the work that must be done.

New York has already won a good name by its handling of this difficult problem. With the help of the new force which is now beginning its labors the city will earn a reputation even higher than that it now bears.

**A Platform and a Definition.**  
The subjoined falsehoods constitute a plank of the platform on which DANIEL HOAN, Socialist, successfully appealed to the electorate of Milwaukee for the office of Mayor: "The American people do not want and do not want this war. They were plunged into the abyss by the treachery of the ruling classes of the country; its demagogic agitators, its bought press, its sensational photoplays and other purchasable instruments."

It was from this text that HOAN made his campaign speeches. It discloses the Socialist attitude toward the war in which American soldiers in France are laying down their lives for their country.

It is the doctrine Mr. HOAN and his followers would have instilled into our fighting forces on the firing line and into the khaki clad young men in our home cantonnments. It shows the spirit in which the Hoans and the Berkmaus and the Goldmans would meet the appeal for volunteers and the appeal for financial and moral support of the Government in its fight for that free air which is the life breath of democracy's life. It is the response Milwaukee's Socialists would make, if they dared, to the selective draft. It is Potsdam's own doctrine, and had it been enunciated by Potsdam itself Milwaukee's Socialists could not have indorsed it more heartily than they did in the campaign in which they elected Mr. HOAN.

"We are for peace," said Mr. HOAN recently. "We want all countries to negotiate for a peace right away." So does Potsdam. So did the Russian Bolsheviks. The Bolsheviks got peace right away and have been butchering each other ever since. Russia got the peace and the Kaiser got Russia. A good German peace, right after Potsdam's own heart and after the heart of Milwaukee's Socialism. Substitute the United States of America for Russia and all ideals of our domestic kulturbund centres would be met. Under such circumstances possibly Mr. HOAN's home party might be willing that Milwaukee should become a part of the United States once more.

"There is no such thing as an American Socialist party," said SAMUEL GORMAN, addressing the Cleveland City Club the other day. "The American Socialist organization is merely a branch of the one in Germany—it is part of the German propaganda."

Thus we have a party platform and a party definition, both upon high authority and both well keeping quiet fresh and unobscured in the American memory.

**Desirable Closing of Experimental Schools.**  
"The public should not be satisfied until men of capacity to accomplish and accomplish quickly are put in charge of the business end of the war," said Senator HOKK SMITH of Georgia, after expressing his great satisfaction at the appointment of Mr. SCHWAB as Director-General of the Emergency Fleet Corporation.

It is even said to go a little further than did Senator SMITH and say that the public not only should not, but that it will not be satisfied hereafter with appointments of men whose capacity does not measure up to the requirements of the tasks imposed upon them. In fact, the time has just about come when the public

## ON DUTY.

**A Misunderstanding Concerning the Ninth Coast Artillery.**  
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—In this issue of April 21 there is an article entitled "Thousands Cheer Guard Parade for Liberty Loan." An entirely false statement is contained in it which brings discredit upon a great organization and the hundreds of men who enlisted in it for foreign service. As it happens, I am an officer in the Ninth Coast Defence command of New York State and was taken into Federal service last August, on the 24th to be precise, our regiment being the first one mustered into the service in the State and the first to leave the State. At present our regiment has taken our place in the Fourteenth street armory of the State Guard and has no connection with the Ninth, some of whose men are now in France, perhaps in battle at this instant.

This article states: "None of the marchers had cartridge belts save for the Ninth Coast Artillery Corps, which is the old Ninth Coast Defence Command, its war duty not having called it outside the State."

The first place the Ninth Coast Artillery Corps is not the old Ninth Coast Defence Command, but consists of a lot of men who have joined the State forces since we entered Federal service. The real Ninth not only has men and officers on the battle line in France, but is to contribute many more. It is part of the National Guard and has absolutely no connection with State forces of any kind whatsoever, and it seems to me that you are doing an injustice to my regiment to say that it has not left the State when it was the first to go.

The real Ninth has a history without parallel. It has been in every war since the war of 1812. It was one of the great battalions of 1812 to 1815 in glorious, and it came out of that struggle with only about 150 men left out of nearly 1,500. All of the others were killed, wounded or captured. It served through the Spanish-American war; it is serving in this one. It is not staying in New York City, nor has it any connection except in the past with that city. It is to be hoped that we shall return after the war to our own home, but for the present we have too much to think about to worry over that. In the meantime we hope that justice will be done the name of our organization. Please breathe the difference between the Ninth and the other units. This has been done in a number of instances and only causes hard feeling.

If for no other reason, than to correct a wrong impression, I hope you will give this letter a little prominence in your columns. Being the historian of the regiment I know that a day will come when the Ninth will come into its own along with the other regiments now under Uncle Sam. We are glad to be in the game, but we hate to have others looked upon as our own unit. During the civil war the same thing happened and the Ninth (then the Eighty-third New York Volunteers) had to fight to win back its old home.

**MARTIAL LAW.**  
It Needed to Protect the Nation, Why Not Adopt It?  
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Conceding the premises that our civil law is proved inadequate in this time of war to cope with the insidious enemies of our Constitution, why is it any more unconstitutional to invoke martial law than to invoke any other of our defence measures?

Why, if war's exigency justifies suspension of habeas corpus, the Overman bill and like preventive against the Constitution's destruction, should suspending trial by jury be subject to the objection of unconstitutionality? It is a question that at last the "military" policies and arguments should cease.

**"CONDUCTORETTE."**  
Are We to Have Also "Mechanette" and "Bollermakerette"?  
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Owing to the exigencies of the war, which require women to take the place of men in various departments of life, I have noticed in the newspapers a term, "conductorette," used to designate a woman in charge of a car or a street car. It is a new word, and I am sure it will be a success. It is a word that I do not recall at the present moment.

In a little book, "The Queen's English," by a one time Dean of Canterbury, the author, after a long and tedious introduction, is considered inadmissible and pedantic. "I expect," wrote he, ironically, "we shall soon see processes and telegraphers and licensed vendictees of stamps."

**RED TAPE.**  
It Kept a Station Doctor From Aiding a Sailor in Distress.  
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: At the corner of Astor and Broadway, the station doctor, directly opposite the Pennsylvania Station, is a war camp community club for the men of the army and navy. Friday night about 9 o'clock a sailor in the clubhouse was seized with violent pain, due to ulcers of the stomach. Some three weeks ago a similar attack of pain had been experienced by him, but he had been found unconscious on the street and carried to Bellevue Hospital. So he was able to tell us the cause of his illness.

I ran across to the Pennsylvania Station to get the station doctor. The man in charge of the station master's office, who told me that he was the proper person to appeal to, refused absolutely to call the doctor, although I told him the sick man was a sailor and was practically on his doorstep. His excuse was that the doctor could not leave the building. When I asked where the doctor was he said he was in bed, a most effective excuse to avoid further importunities. I did not even have a chance to ask how we might relieve the man ourselves.

By way of contrast, I met on my way out an army doctor going to his train, who readily turned back, saw the man and gave him the necessary attention. I know of no better way to protect the next unfortunate who may be stricken in front of the doors of this great organization, with all the machinery to render quick aid, than to publish the facts, showing the callousness displayed by it.

## LIFE IN UNCLE SAM'S NAVY IN THE CIVIL WAR.

Conditions That To-day Would Be Considered Hard Were Accepted Then Without Complaint.

When the writer reported for duty on his first ship, the U. S. Monticello, on June 8, 1861, the food served to the enlisted men comprised the following articles:

Hard bread.	Butter.
Salt beef.	Cheese.
Salt pork.	Solomon's.
Beans.	Vinegar.
Flour.	Pickles.
Coffee and tea.	Dried apples.
Sugar.	Raisins.

Pork and beans were issued four days and salt beef and flour three days in the week. The flour was put in bags with dried apples and boiled. This product was what the men called "duff." When raisins were used instead of dried apples it became "plum duff," and with molasses for sauce was greatly enjoyed by the bluejackets.

When in port fresh beef, potatoes and onions were issued three days in the week—the men would have growled had fresh food been issued oftener—two issues of pork and beans and one of salt beef and flour were omitted. The men thrived under this food, and a braver, more gallant, harder set never existed.

Canned food was little known, but in about a twelvemonth the manufacturers had so improved their output that tinned beef, tomatoes and delectable potatoes were introduced and took the place of three days of salt food. The men at first did not like the change, but soon became accustomed to it and were contented.

The delectable potatoes proved a failure and the department soon struck them from the ration list. All of the food was of excellent quality. The crew was divided into messes of twelve to fifteen men and the ration was so laid out that each man had twelve rations would feed fifteen men, the other three rations were commuted and their value was paid over to the mess by the Paymaster every month. The ration was valued at 25 cents, thus making for three commuted \$2.50 every month and the men used the money thus obtained to suit themselves.

Tables for the crew were unknown. Five foot squares of canvas painted black were spread on the berth deck and the men sat on the deck around it and ate their meals. The table ware was of tin. Whiskey was served twice a day, at 1 o'clock and 5 o'clock noon, to all enlisted men who were fortunate enough to be on the "grog list."

To those who did not drink the Government allowed four cents a day and this amount was credited to the account of each abstainer. Officers bought all their own food, china, tablecloth, etc., in fact, all the necessities of life, and as the regulations allowed one ration a day to each person in the service on sea duty officers commuted the ration and each one was credited with \$7.50 a month on the books of the ship and in addition \$1.20 each for the whiskey ration, although under the regulations they were not permitted to draw any whiskey from the ship's stores.

The officers bought all their own drinkables, and these were controlled by the so-called "wine mess," members signing for what they used just as was done in a club. Officers who were absent from the ship's stores.

**DEPARTED FALLACIES.**  
America's Isolation and Safety in Unpreparedness Are Among Them.  
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: When a fallacy has been long rooted in the public mind is exploded by some salutary experience it is important that the fact should be brought to the general attention at once. If it is allowed to slip by unnoticed and become a thing of the past, the fallacy, like an imperfectly rooted weed, will soon shoot up and spread again.

We have an instance before us today. It was believed in this country that the days of great wars were over because of the moral progress of mankind. The present war is showing that the basic instincts of humanity have not changed in 2,000 years. The passions and ambitions that have guided it are exactly similar to those of Greek and Roman antiquity, and the methods employed would have shocked both Alexander and Caesar.

It was thought that America, through her isolation, was immune from war, and here we are in it up to our necks because the interests of all great people are too closely interwoven for any one to live apart. It was vociferously proclaimed that we needed no "preparedness," because with our wealth and resourcefulness "a million men would spring up overnight." We have been in the war a year and our military effort has not yet equalled that of a small Swiss canton, and had not put forth at the outbreak of hostilities. If this great struggle for democracy is lost it will be because we could not get into the fight in time.

It was said that preparedness would bring on war and helplessness would preserve the peace, and now it is practically certain that if the German Government had not looked with contempt upon a nation that seemed too weak even to inspire respect among Mexican bandits they would not have ventured to drive us into the arms of their enemies.

Under the protection of the British fleet we escape from our own shores, and the suffering and damage upon our own soil, and if our injuries are confined to heavy taxes and the loss of many of the brave boys we are obliged to send with hurried and imperfect training to Europe, the crop of pacifists and visionaries will spring up again when peace is declared and the nation will be left in a humiliating condition in which the great world crisis found us.

The time to dwell upon these instructive facts is now.  
H. G. S. NORRIS.  
New York, April 24.

**An Opportunity for a Great Letter.**  
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: While in New York a few days ago I attended several theatres and in only one was "The Star Spangled Banner" played. Would it not be a good idea for the Mayor to issue an order requiring the orchestra to play our national hymn before the beginning of the performance? As the audience is supposed to stand during the playing, it might be the means of dispersing some one to whom appeal.

T. B. GRIPPIN.  
ROSEMONT, Mass., April 23.

**Arkansas' Preparedness.**  
Goss' Anti-corruption Nevada County Pleas.  
Well, the rain came and the wind blew, and Walter and family to the stormhouse.

JOHN A. O'NEILL.  
BROOKLYN, April 24.

**From the Illinois-Late Register.**  
It is a western story with a very pretty love affair running through it. In it a father kills his own son, but not before he is mortally wounded by his own boy.

JOHN A. O'NEILL.  
BROOKLYN, April 24.

**Cambridge's Preparedness.**  
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